

tries but through other programmes like the Colombo Plan. As further evidence of our genuine interest in the problems of the under-developed countries, the Delegation might point out that Canada has already expressed its readiness to join with others in offering support for the Special Fund which is now under consideration by the Council. Although the exact Canadian position on the Special Fund will be developed in the debate on the report of the Preparatory Committee which was established to prepare recommendations for the inauguration of the Special Fund, the Delegation should make it clear that Canadian support is subject to parliamentary approval, to satisfactory organizational and administrative arrangements being agreed upon, and to there being broad support from other members. While it is important that the Delegation should appear responsive and sympathetic to the legitimate aspirations of the less privileged countries, it is equally important that their expectations or hopes should not be falsely raised. The Delegation should therefore stress the wisdom of following a cautious policy in this field in not contemplating further claims on the resources of the United Nations community before the Special Fund has been set up and given an opportunity to commence operations.

#### *Regional Economic Commissions; Economic Commission for Europe*

10. One of the principal questions covered in the annual report for the Economic Commission for Europe is the European Common Market. Since it continues to be a matter of considerable interest to many countries, it is likely to be discussed at ECOSOC. The Canadian Delegation should reiterate in broad terms the general support of this country for the objectives of the Common Market as far as these efforts are directed to the expansion and diversification of trade, while expressing reservations in general terms about particular provisions of the EEC treaty which could impair the trading interests of third countries, weaken trading relations that have been built up between Western Europe and other regions in the post-war period, and impair the benefits to themselves which might be expected to result from this initiative. The Delegation should refer to the special consultation procedure which has been worked out by the GATT to deal with specific and practical problems arising from the Common Market Treaty and indicate Canadian hopes for reaching mutually satisfactory solutions. If endeavours are made to have ECOSOC undertake a detailed examination of the Treaty, the Delegation might point out that such an examination has already been initiated under the GATT.

#### *International Commodity Problems*

11. It is anticipated that in view of the difficult market conditions for many primary products in recent months, there will be a good deal of discussion on this subject.

12. This is a subject of considerable concern to Canada, as a producer of a wide range of agricultural and primary commodities. Under-developed countries, many of which depend on export earnings of one or a few products, have urged the adoption within the United Nations of a variety of measures — some quite extreme — to meet their difficulties. Canadian delegations have taken the position that no generalized solutions to international commodity problems can be found. The Canadian position has been that these problems can be approached most effectively on a commodity-by-commodity basis, and that solutions to commodity problems require the support of the principal countries concerned. In accordance with this position Canada has been represented at a variety of international conferences and study groups both within and outside the United Nations concerned with particular commodities; Canada is a member of the three intergovernmental commodity agreements on wheat, sugar and tin.

13. At the forthcoming meeting of ECOSOC, the Delegation should maintain the basic Canadian position. It should express an appreciation of the economic problems faced by